



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, December 23, 2015

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (16-0141)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia, Vice Chairperson Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Susan Burton, Commissioner Percy Duran III, Commissioner Keren M. Goldberg, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D. and Commissioner Theresa Zhen

Excused: Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Staff present: Roy Sinclair and Jenny Kimbell. (16-0142)

Call to Order. (15-5902)

Chairperson Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montañó led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of the December 16, 2015 Minutes. (15-5903)

On motion of Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Percy Duran, III, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Election of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections; for a one year term of office beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016. (15-5863)

Chairperson

On motion of Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., seconded by Commissioner Susan Burton, the nominations from the floor for election of the Sybil Brand Commission Chairperson were opened.

Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia and Commissioner Barbara Bigby were nominated for Chairperson.

Therefore, there being no further nominations from the floor, on motion of Commissioner Keren Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., the nomination process was closed.

On motion of Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., the Commission elected Commissioner Barbara Bigby as Chairperson for a one year term of office beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016 by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Susan Burton, Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., Commissioner Keren Goldberg, Commissioner Theresa Zhen, Vice Chairperson Barbara Bigby and Chairperson Eleanor Montaña

Noes: Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia

Abstentions: None

Absent: Commissioner Anne. S. Hill

Vice Chairperson

On motion of Commissioner Theresa Zhen, seconded by Commissioner Keren Goldberg, the nominations from the floor for election of the Sybil Brand Commission Vice Chairperson were opened.

Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., was nominated for Vice Chairperson.

Therefore, there being no further nominations from the floor, on motion of Commissioner Barbara Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Susan Burton, the nomination process was closed.

On motion of Commissioner Theresa Zhen, seconded by Commissioner Susan Burton, unanimously carried (Commissioner Anne Hill being absent), Commissioner Cheryl Grills, Ph.D. was elected Vice Chairperson for a one year term of office beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016.

II. REPORTS

3. Chairperson's Report on various items. (15-5904)

Chairperson Montaña provided an overview of her many years of service to the Sybil Brand Commission and the community, which included ten years as Vice Chairperson and eleven years as Chairperson. She shared that the highlight of her many accomplishments has been the numerous children that she has helped leave gangs and that approximately fifteen of them have pursued careers in law enforcement.

Chairperson Montaña thanked the Commissioners, representatives from the Sheriff's Department, Department of Children and family Services, Probation Department, Internal Services and the Auditor-Controllers office for their support during her tenure as Chairperson of the Sybil Brand Commission.

4. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (15-5905)

There was no report presented.

5. Report/update by the Sybil Brand Commission Bylaws Ad-hoc Committee. (Continued from the meeting of December 9, 2015) (15-5744)

Commissioner Arias-Bhatia reported that the Bylaws Committee met during December 2015. The Committee will continue the review the bylaws and will bring its recommendations to the full Commission for discussion and action. She also reported that two ideas emerged from the meeting. One is to establish an Ad-Hoc Legislation Committee which will look at legislation that may impact the work of the Commission. The second would be to establish an Outreach Committee that would meet with representatives from the Sheriff's Department, inmates at Men's Central Jail as well as Century Regional Detention Facility regarding topics such as the Education Based Incarceration Programs, Inmate Welfare Fund and other critical issues.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Report/update by the Sybil Brand Commission Quarterly and Annual Report Ad-hoc Committee. (Continued from the meeting of December 9, 2015) (15-5745)

Commissioner Zhen reported that the Annual Reports Committee has not met.

Staff was directed to schedule a teleconference within the next two weeks and also provide a sample report to assist the Committee in determining the format and types of information that will be included in their report.

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from December 17, 2015 to December 22, 2015. (15-5906)

During the reporting period, the following group homes/facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited:

- **Olive Crest Treatment Center (Cornuta Avenue, Bellflower, CA) on December 22, 2015.**

Vice Chairperson Barbara Bigby visited:

- **Rosemary Children's Services "500 House" (South Oakland Avenue, Pasadena, CA) on December 21, 2015 for a follow-up inspection and noted the following: Bathroom #1 needs caulking around the bathtub and toilet (all other matters were addressed); Bathroom #2 needs new flooring; Bedrooms #2 and #4 need new blinds.**

Commissioners Burton and Grills visited:

- **Delilu Achievement (West 36th Place, Los Angeles, CA) on December 18, 2015.**
- **Junior Blind of America "Foundation for the Jr. Blind" (Angeles Vista Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA) for a follow-up inspection on December 18, 2015.**

During the reporting period, the following facility was reported as being in unsatisfactory condition:

Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited:

- **Lifecircles Group Home (Louvre Street, Pacoima, CA) on December 21, 2015 and noted that although the conditions have improved, the group home is still sub-standard.**

The kitchen, furniture, food, and washing machine are sub-standard and there is no hot water. Staff Assistants do not appear to be well qualified. Commission Services staff was directed to forward a copy of the findings to the Board of Supervisors and Ms. Patricia Bolanos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator II, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS.

Commissioners Burton and Grills visited:

- Men's Central Jail (Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA) on December 23, 2015 and noted the following: There is corrosion in the bathrooms as well as the paint is peeling off the walls and ceiling; rust build-up in the pipes and shower door frames; a number of toilets are broken and not clean; significant mold and paint peeling in the shower areas; inmates do not have access to reading materials and cable television does not work; inmates must flush the toilet in order to get hot water; First Aid kit and cleaning supplies are not adequate; and inmates complain of pain and not being seen by medical staff.

III. DISCUSSIONS

8. Discussion and action regarding the Sybil Brand Commission's Treasurer and Bank Account. (Continued from the meeting of December 9, 2015) (15-5743)

During discussion, the Commissioners agreed that there is no need to open a bank account or a Los Angeles County Trust Fund. The funds that are currently being held on their behalf by the Executive Office's Fiscal services Division will be used to fund the 2016 SBC Scholarships. Going forward, the Commission will only collect funds to cover future events at a time that it deems appropriate.

Following discussion, staff was directed to inquire if Fiscal Services Division can hold the Commission's funds until the SBC Scholarship Program takes place in 2016.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

9. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (15-5907)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

10. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (15-5909)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment for the meeting of December 23, 2015. (15-5910)

There being no further business, Chairperson Montaña adjourned the meeting of December 23, 2015 at 11:45 a.m.